

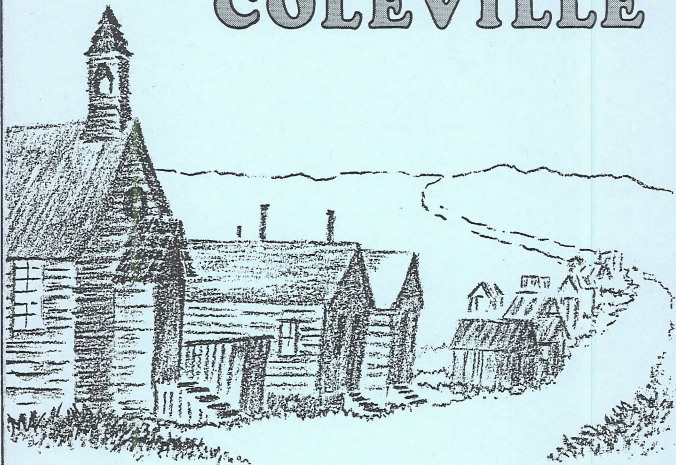
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BODIE -

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MFP-3 SUMMARY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR • BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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IN REPLY
REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
800 Truxtun Avenue, Room 302
Bakersfield, California 93301
Phone: (805) 861-4191

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays

1601 (C-014)

Dear Reader:

This document contains a summary of Management Framework Plan (MFP) land use decisions which will guide future management actions for public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Bodie/Coleville Planning Area of the Bishop Resource Area. Decisions present in this document are the culmination of several years of intensive resource inventory, evaluation, planning and EIS efforts.

The grazing decisions covered in the land use plan include forage use by allotment by livestock; the plan also designates a season of use for livestock. These grazing decisions, including livestock season of use, forage utilization standards, and proposed grazing systems, will be described in the Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) which will be distributed to the public in the near future.

The management decisions in the Bodie/Coleville land use plan are now in effect. The plan will be monitored on a regular basis to assess its effectiveness and continued applicability. Any amendment to the plan that may occur will be based on the information obtained from monitoring the plan. You will be given many opportunities for a voice in any significant amendment.

Should you wish to review the more detailed land use decisions for a specific area or resource than what is reported in this summary document, the official Bodie/Coleville land use plan is maintained at the Bakersfield District BLM's Bishop Resource Area Office, 673 North Main Street, Bishop, California 93514. We hope you will keep abreast of the Bureau's continuous management program and will continue to actively participate in subsequent planning efforts. We want our work to be guided by your thinking as well as our.

Sincerely

Robert D. Rheiner, Jr.
District Manager

EAST ANTELOPE VALLEY

Background

This management area contains approximately 2,750 acres of public land located adjacent to the Toiyabe National Forest. Special land uses on these public lands to serve local community needs include sanitary land fills, sand and gravel pits and similar type public uses. Some exploration of locatable minerals has taken place in the area, sheep trailing has customarily occurred along the periphery of these lands to and from the summer pastures on the National Forest, and mule deer use the area as an important holding area in the spring and summer. There is also some potential for woodland products, particularly fuelwood.

The management goal for the public lands east of the Eastside Road and north of Camp Antelope is to maintain them as a protective area for mule deer during the critical use period of each year (October 15 to June 15); while the public lands west of the Eastside Road and near Camp Antelope are to be available for special land uses to serve the communities of Antelope Valley.

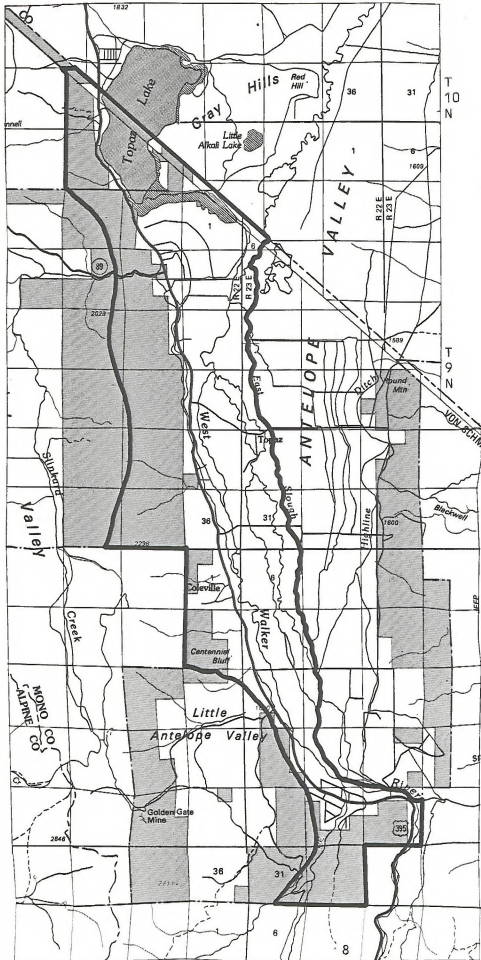
Major Decisions

1. All public lands east of the Eastside Road are to remain in public ownership and managed to insure no further loss of mule deer habitat. No major surface disturbing activities will be authorized in this area; other discretionary activities that may adversely influence the movement or habitat needs of mule deer from October 15 to June 15 of each year will be prohibited. Harvesting of woodland products can only occur from June 16 to October 14.
2. Public lands west of Eastside Road will be available for material sales sites, public sales, community expansion and intensive recreation use.
3. Livestock use will be limited to trailing purposes only, and will be limited to one day trailing time each way per band of sheep or herd of cattle; all livestock will be retained along the Eastside Road and within 100 yards of the roadway.

R 22 E

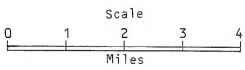
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WEST ANTELOPE VALLEY MANAGEMENT AREA



LEGEND

- Public Land
- Management Area Boundary



M.D.M.

WEST ANTELOPE VALLEY

Background

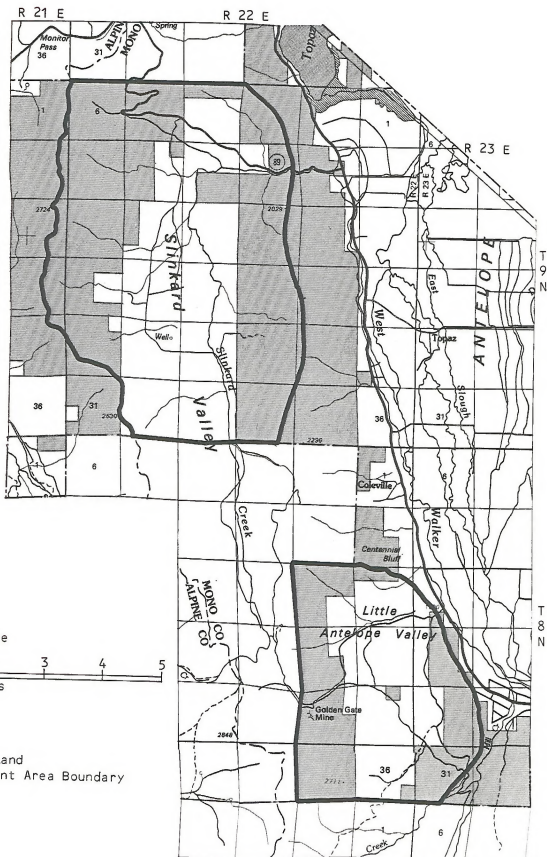
This management area includes approximately 8,000 acres of public land located along the roughed west slopes of the Antelope Valley which provide an important scenic backdrop for the area. Pinyon pine and juniper trees and large shrubs are prominent features of the lands; some deposits of sand and gravel occur on the public lands at the base of the slope near Highway 395. Special land uses include the Walker Community Recreation Park and the federal fire station at the junction of highways 89 and 395. Mule deer migrate through the area seasonally; the area also provides important fall, winter and spring range for these deer. The area has potential for fuelwood harvest. There are several small grazing allotments along the slope for sheep, cattle and horses.

The management goal for this area is to maintain and enhance mule deer habitat and existing scenic values. Other resource and land uses can occur in this area if compatible with these goals. The public lands adjacent to Topaz Lake will be maintained for recreational and wildlife habitat values.

Major Decisions

1. All public lands will be retained in public ownership with the exception of small parcels identified for disposal on the east side of Highway 395.
2. Maintain and enhance habitat conditions to support the Walker deer herd.
3. Maintain and enhance the riparian and aquatic habitats along Mill and Lower Slinkard Creek. Provide improved fishing access and parking providing overall habitat conditions will not be degraded by these actions.
4. Vehicle use, including snowmobile use, will be restricted in the area north of highway 89 to designated routes, between December 1 and April 1 of each year.
5. Special considerations are to be given in mining plans under the surface mining regulations as to impacts to mule deer habitat and scenic values.

SLINKARD VALLEY & LITTLE ANTELOPE VALLEY MANAGEMENT AREAS



Scale



LEGEND

- Public Land
- Management Area Boundary

SLINKARD & LITTLE ANTELOPE VALLEYS

Background

The Management area contains approximately 10,900 acres of public land principally located on the periphery of Slinkard and Little Antelope Valleys. Much of the public lands in the area contain pinyon-juniper woodland and mixed conifer which provides important habitat areas for mule deer; portions of the public land provide important scenic backdrop from Highway 89. Sheep and cattle grazing occur in some of the areas, and some isolated sites could produce merchantable timber. Additionally there is a substantial amount of other woodland products, mainly fuelwood. The Golden Gate Mine provides a point of historic interest to many; and there are some sand and gravel deposits along Highway 89 that area accessible for road and maintenance and construction needs.

The management goal for these public lands is to maintain and enhance mule deer habitat conditions, water related resources, and scenic values for this area. Additionally, provide vehicle access availability to the public lands in this area providing compatible with the above resource values.

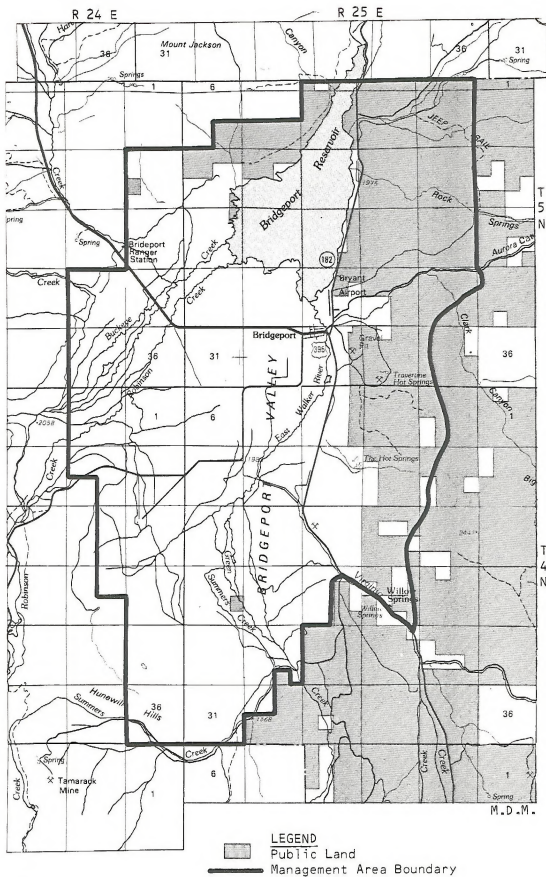
Management of all resources will be conducted in close coordination with California Department of Fish and Game.

Major Decisions



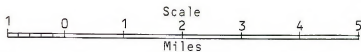
1. All public land is to remain in public ownership with the exception of a 40 acre tract in Little Antelope Valley which has been identified as suitable for disposal.
2. Special considerations are to be given to potential impacts to mule deer habitat and scenic values in mining plans developed under the surface mining regulations.
3. Harvesting of fuelwood will be limited to July 1 to October 31 of each year.
4. Vehicle use, including snowmobile use, on public lands will be restricted in the area north of Highway 89 to designated routes between December 1 and April 1 of each year.
5. Livestock grazing will continue at maximum sustained yield of livestock forage on the Dry Canyon and Slinkard Valley allotments, other public lands in the management area will remain unallotted from livestock grazing. The ultimate goal is to work with CDF&G to convert this grazing use to state-owned lands in Slinkard Valley, and enhance the mule deer habitat on the public lands now within the existing allotments.

BRIDGEPORT VALLEY MANAGEMENT AREA



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LEGEND
 [Shaded Box] Public Land
 [Thick Line] Management Area Boundary



BRIDGEPORT VALLEY



Background

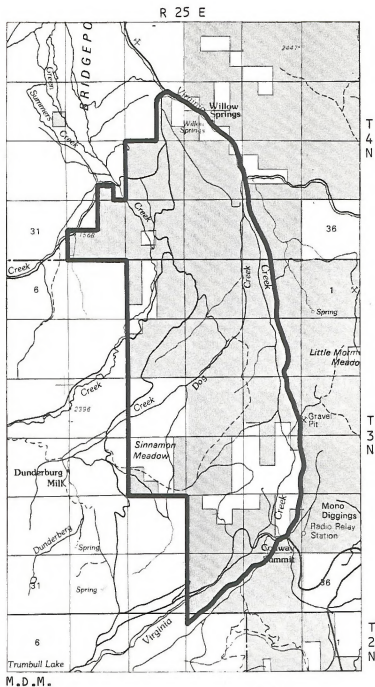
There are approximately 9,200 acres of public land in the Bridgeport Valley management area, mostly along the eastern periphery of the valley. The town of Bridgeport is located in the valley and contains an estimated population of 700 people. Public lands to the east of Bridgeport have provided special land uses such as sanitary land fills, sewage lagoons, cemeteries, and material sites. Public lands on the eastern edge of the management area contain stands of pinyon pine and juniper trees. There is a unique travertine deposit located within the thermal springs area on public land south east of Bridgeport.

The management goal for the area is to accommodate intensive land use needs of the Bridgeport Valley community. Some site specific limitations may occur along sensitive watershed areas, at important cultural sites and at Travertine Hot Springs.

Major Decisions

1. Approximately 470 acres of public land has been identified as available for public purposes, including a new sanitary land fill site and a material site for the community. An area will be made available for possible expansion of the Bridgeport Indian Colony, and two 40 acre tracts have been identified for disposal from public ownership.
2. Travertine Hot Springs is identified as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), and will be managed to protect the geological, interpretive and cultural resources, while providing for public recreational use and meeting public health and safety needs. Additionally some sale of the travertine material and geothermal development will be allowed within the primary ACEC objectives.
3. Manage for the maintenance and enhancement of watershed conditions and riparian habitat rehabilitation; no discretionary surface disturbing activities will be allowed along drainage bottoms and adjacent canyon slopes of Aurora Canyon Creek, Clark Canyon Creek and Hot Springs Canyon Creek; work to control head cutting along key riparian areas.

VIRGINIA CREEK MANAGEMENT AREA



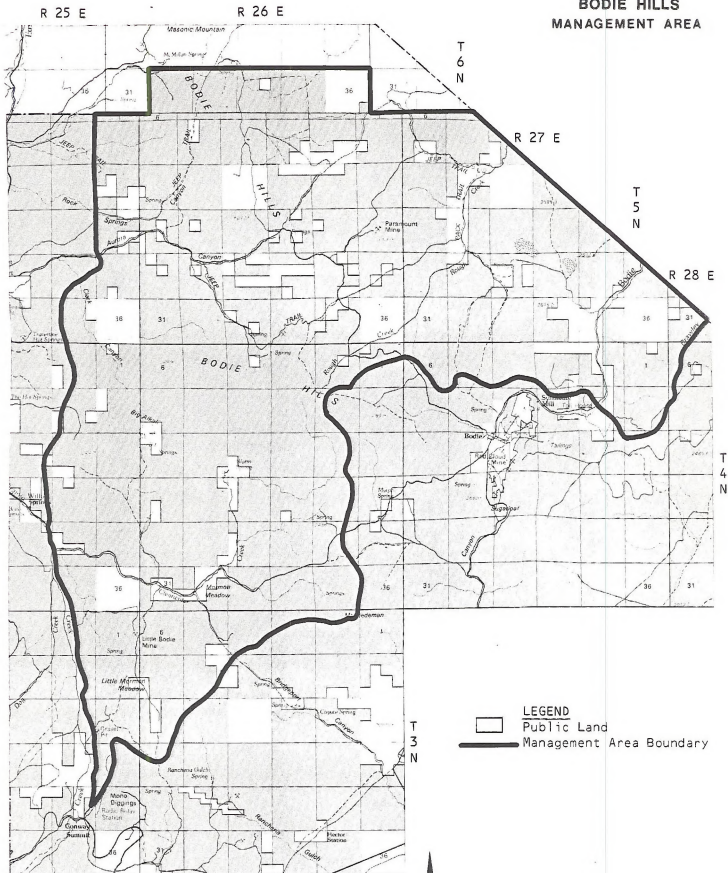
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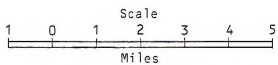
LEGEND

- Public Land
- Management Area Boundary

**BODIE HILLS
MANAGEMENT AREA**



M. D. M.



BODIE HILLS

Background

The Bodie Hills consist of approximately 70,000 acres of public lands. The lower elevation areas consist of pinyon pine and juniper vegetation, whereas the upper elevations contain a cover of sagebrush with pockets of aspen groves. The area is important for summer livestock grazing and habitat for mule deer and antelope as well as sage grouse. Some dispersed recreation occurs in the area, primarily hunting. Travel routes cross the area to Bodie State Park. Some mining of locatable minerals has occurred historically and there is a renewed interest in exploration for minerals particularly in the Paramount Mine area. There is some potential for geothermal development in portions of the area also. Some of the drainages and meadow areas in the area are currently in less than desirable condition and soil and habitat losses are occurring.

The management goal for the area is to provide for the continued use and opportunity for commodity production of such resources as livestock grazing, mining, and possible development of geothermal resources. Specific actions stemming from these programs will be evaluated, and mitigating measures developed to minimize impacts to scenic and recreational values and to maintain and/or enhance values of wildlife habitat and watershed.

Major Decisions

1. Develop a coordinated resource management plan for the Bodie Hills area to improve vegetative conditions for wildlife habitat, watershed protection and livestock forage. The management plan will include livestock grazing techniques, measures to control/correct soil erosion problems, and specific measures to rehabilitate vegetative conditions of aspen groves, spring areas and meadow and wetland areas.
2. No authorized occupancy or intensive use of public lands will be allowed on or within 150 feet of any meadows or riparian zones in the area, or within Aurora Canyon, Clark Canyon, Hot Springs Canyon, Rough Creek, Atastra Creek, or the unnamed tributary to Bodie Creek and Morman Meadows.
3. No occupancy or intensive land use or surface disturbing activity will be allowed within a known sage grouse strutting ground. No occupancy or intensive land uses will be allowed within 1/8 mile of a strutting ground during the months of March and April, or within 2 miles in May and June.
4. No harvesting of aspen for fuelwood will be allowed in this management area.
5. Strive to increase forage production on the grazing allotments in this management area through approved livestock management techniques.

BODIE HILLS

Background

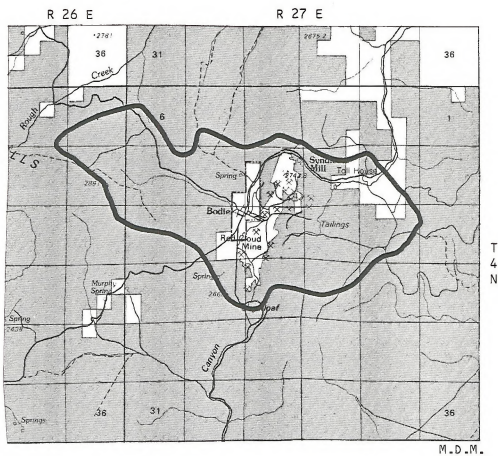
The Bodie Hills consist of approximately 70,000 acres of public lands. The lower elevation areas consist of pinyon pine and juniper vegetation, whereas the upper elevations contain a cover of sagebrush with pockets of aspen groves. The area is important for summer livestock grazing and habitat for mule deer and antelope as well as sage grouse. Some dispersed recreation occurs in the area, primarily hunting. Travel routes cross the area to Bodie State Park. Some mining of locatable minerals has occurred historically and there is a renewed interest in exploration for minerals particularly in the Paramount Mine area. There is some potential for geothermal development in portions of the area also. Some of the drainages and meadow areas in the area are currently in less than desirable condition and soil and habitat losses are occurring.

The management goal for the area is to provide for the continued use and opportunity for commodity production of such resources as livestock grazing, mining, and possible development of geothermal resources. Specific actions stemming from these programs will be evaluated, and mitigating measures developed to minimize impacts to scenic and recreational values and to maintain and/or enhance values of wildlife habitat and watershed.



Major Decisions

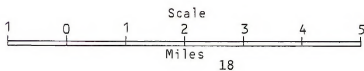
1. Develop a coordinated resource management plan for the Bodie Hills area to improve vegetative conditions for wildlife habitat, watershed protection and livestock forage. The management plan will include livestock grazing techniques, measures to control/correct soil erosion problems, and specific measures to rehabilitate vegetative conditions of aspen groves, spring areas and meadow and wetland areas.
2. No authorized occupancy or intensive use of public lands will be allowed on or within 150 feet of any meadows or riparian zones in the area, or within Aurora Canyon, Clark Canyon, Hot Springs Canyon, Rough Creek, Atastra Creek, or the unnamed tributary to Bodie Creek and Mormon Meadows.
3. No occupancy or intensive land use or surface disturbing activity will be allowed within a known sage grouse strutting ground. No occupancy or intensive land uses will be allowed within 1/8 mile of a strutting ground during the months of March and April, or within 2 miles in May and June.
4. No harvesting of aspen for fuelwood will be allowed in this management area.
5. Strive to increase forage production on the grazing allotments in this management area through approved livestock management techniques.

**BODIE BOWL
MANAGEMENT AREA**



LEGEND

-  Public Land
-  Management Area Boundary



BODIE BOWL

Background

The Bodie Bowl management area consists of approximately 5000 acres of public land, which surround the Bodie State Historic Park, managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Although there is a high potential for mineral development in the area, at the present time there has been little if any mineral production from mining claims on public lands in the management area; prospecting, however, is active with a potential for future mineral extraction. Temperature gradient tests indicate that the area may have a potential for geothermal development. There is some off-road vehicle use for mining and recreational activities, such as hunting and camping in this area.

The management goal for the public lands in this management area will be for the protection and interpretive enhancement of cultural (historic) resources (exploration and mining of locatable minerals will continue to occur on public land under current law and bureau policy). Other land uses and activities will be allowed to occur only if the activity does not degrade values or interfere with visitor use and interpretive values to the area. The area will be managed under close cooperation with the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation.

Major Decisions

1. Develop a cooperative management agreement and plan with the California Department of Parks and Recreation for the management of cultural resources and land uses of public lands in the Bodie bowl under the framework of the management area objectives.
2. The multiple use of public lands in the Bodie Bowl will be managed to insure protection of Scenic values, potentially impacting activities which can not be mitigated will not be authorized.
3. There will be no surface occupancy or intensive land use activities on public lands within the Bodie Bowl. No physical structures or improvements will be placed on the public land unless in harmony or complimentary to historic or visitor use values.
4. Vehicle use on public lands in the Bodie Bowl will be limited to designated vehicle routes.
5. Wildfires will be extinguished immediately; however, no surface disturbances will occur for suppression activities unless absolutely necessary to protect structures, facilities and visitor safety.

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MONO BASIN MANAGEMENT AREA

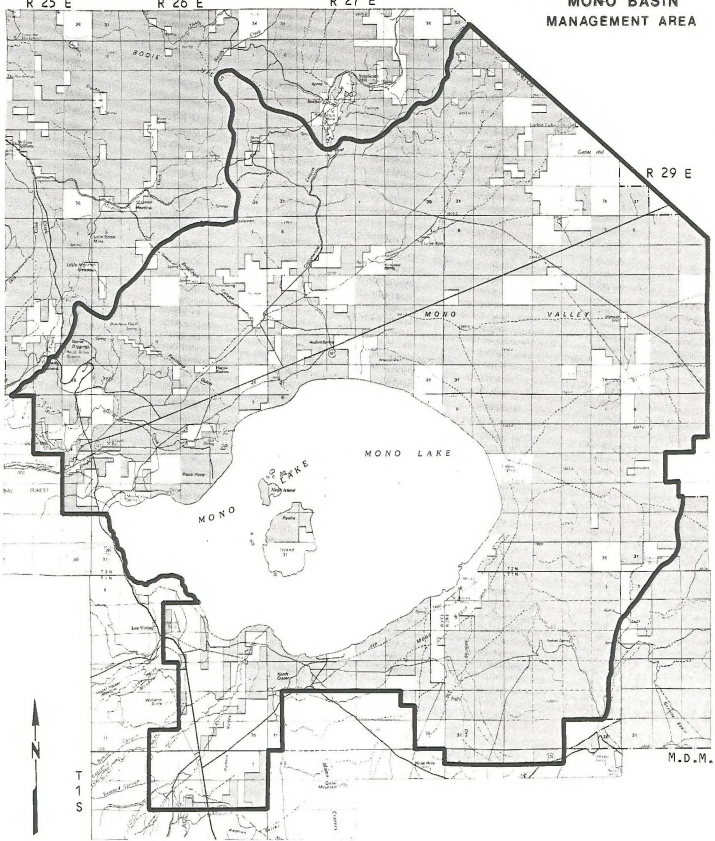
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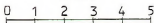


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- Public Land
- Management Area Boundary

Scale



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MONO BASIN

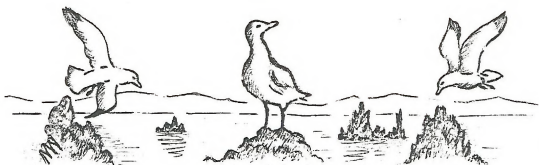
Background

This management area contains approximately 158,000 acres of public land, mostly within the hydrologic basin of Mono Lake. The central attraction and concern in the area is Mono Lake itself, which is owned by the state of California. Islands, islets, contested relicted lands, and public lands surrounding Mono Lake contain several sensitive resources such as scenic values, interesting geologic structures, and important wetland wildlife habitat. The lake shore receives heavy visitor use during the summer months. Additional resource values within the basin include geothermal energy potential, important terrestrial wildlife habitat areas, and livestock grazing.

Manage the public lands in the Mono Basin to protect and enhance the scenic, wetland wildlife habitat, unique botanical and geological features, and air quality as well as provide opportunities for research. All other land uses and activities will be managed for compatibility or support of these values. Designate and manage portions of the area as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

Major Decisions

1. Provide for the continued use of the Mono Basin as nesting habitat for at least 30,000 California gulls, and the continued existence of the natural food supply and resting area to support the diversity and population levels of migratory water birds. In addition maintain and enhance aquatic, riparian and terrestrial habitat types that are influenced by lake level changes.
2. Maintain seasonal closure of all public access to Negit and Paoha Islands and surrounding islets from April 1 to August 1 of each year.
3. Provide adequate predator protection of wetland nesting habitat.
4. Do not allow grazing on the relicted lands around Mono Lake from the 6,417 foot elevation to the shoreline.
5. Facilitate, through a permitting system, the opportunity for long-term educational and research projects and programs that are compatible with the other recognized values for the area.
6. Manage visitor use through field patrols, public contact, vehicle access restrictions, environmental education, and closures or other administrative actions to protect and preserve the identified natural values in the Mono Basin; traditional Native American harvesting activities of Brine Larvae will be allowed along the shores of Mono Lake.



7. Establish and maintain a high level of communication and coordination with the Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power, Mono County, California Resources Agency, State Lands Commission, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, and other agencies and organizations, both public and private, concerned with the management of the Mono Basin.
8. With the exception of Wilson and Lundy Creeks, no authorized surface occupancy or intensive land uses will be allowed on or within 150 feet of any meadows or riparian zones in the area.
9. No occupancy or intensive land uses will be allowed within a known strutting ground at any time, nor within 1/8 mile of a known strutting ground during the months of March and April, nor within 2 miles during the months of May and June.
10. All public land in the management area will be retained in Federal ownership with the exception of three parcels of public land on the western portion of the management area which have been identified as suitable for disposal from government ownership and made available for urban/suburban expansion, provided the congressional withdrawals are lifted.
11. Vehicle use in most of the management area is limited to existing roads and trails; all of Mono Lake relicted lands and areas west of Highway 395 and south of Virginia Creek are limited to designated roads and trails; specific areas are closed to vehicle use.
12. The management goal of the Cooper Mountain, Mono Settlement, DeChambeau Ranch, Goat Ranch, and Rancheria Gulch allotments is to maintain the maximum sustained yield of livestock forage and improve wildlife habitat and watershed conditions with a moderate amount of management. A deferred-rotation grazing system will be required for all these allotments to achieve these goals.
13. The management goal of the Mono Sand Flat allotment is to improve the maximum sustained yield of livestock forage and improve wildlife habitat, recreation values, and provide habitat for use by wild horses of the equivalent of 30 head for a six-month period.
14. No grazing will be authorized in the previously recognized Larkin Lake allotment (California portion) in order to protect and enhance wetland wildlife habitat.

GLOSSARY

ALLOTMENT: An area of land where one or more operators graze their livestock. It generally consists of public lands but may include parcels of private or state-owned lands. The number of livestock and season of use are stipulated for each allotment. An allotment may consist of one or several pastures.

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (AMP): A livestock grazing management plan dealing with a specific unit of rangeland, based on multiple-use resource management objectives. The AMP considers livestock grazing in relation to other uses of the range and in relation to renewable resources-watershed, vegetation, and wildlife. An AMP establishes the seasons of use, the number of livestock to be permitted on the range, and the range improvements needed.

ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM): The amount of forage required to sustain the equivalent of one cow and calf or five sheep for one month.

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACECs): Areas within public lands where special management attention is required to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important resources, other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and promote safety from hazards.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: Those fragile and nonrenewable remains of human activities, occupations, and endeavors as reflected in sites, buildings, structures, or objects, including works of art, architecture, and engineering. Cultural resources are commonly discussed as prehistoric and historic values, but each period represents a part of the full continuum of cultural values from the earliest to the most recent.

HABITAT: A specific set of physical conditions that surround a single species, a group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management the major components of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN (HMP): A written and officially approved plan for a specific geographical area of public land that identifies wildlife habitat and related objectives, establishes the sequence of actions for achieving objectives, and outlines procedures for evaluating accomplishments.

LANDS DISPOSAL: A transaction that leads to the transfer of title to public lands from the Federal Government.

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP): A land use plan for public lands that provides a set of goals, objectives, and constraints for a specific planning area to guide the development of detailed plans for the management of each resource.

MULTIPLE USE PLANNING: Planning for harmonious and coordinated management of the various surface resources, without impairment of the land, that will best meet the present and future needs of the people.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV): Any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland or other natural terrain, excluding (a) any registered motorboat, (b) any fire, military, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle when used for emergencies and any combat or combat support vehicle when used for national defense, and (c) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the respective agency head under a permit, lease, license, or contract.

PRESCRIBED BURNING: The intentional burning of the wildland fuels of a predetermined area under proper weather, fuel moisture, and soil moisture conditions to achieve planned benefits with minimum damage at acceptable costs.

RIPARIAN: Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Riparian is normally used to refer to the plants of all types that grow along streams or around springs.

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (VRM) CLASSES: Classification of landscapes according to the kinds of structures and changes that are acceptable to meet established visual goals.

WATERSHED: The region draining into a river, riversystem or body of water.

WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA): A roadless area or island that has been inventoried and found to have wilderness characteristics as described in Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891).

WITHDRAWAL: An action that restricts the disposal of public lands and holds them for specific public purposes; also public lands that have been dedicated to public purposes.

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Denver, CO 80225

U.S. DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF LAND
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